

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 H-01 DHA-05 /067 W

-----058723 171024Z /12

P R 170919Z OCT 77

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6483

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 1465

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJ: ROBERT SOBUKWE

REF: A) CAPE TOWN 1460; B) PRETORIA 5487

SUMMARY: SOBUKWE HAS ACCEPTED SAG-PROPOSED COMPROMISE WHICH  
WILL ALLOW HIM TO RESIDE FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT HOME  
OF YOUNG GROOTE SCHUUR DOCTOR IN CAPE TOWN SUBURBS. END SUMMARY

1. REF B REPORTED THAT SOBUKWE LEFT GROOTE SCHUUR  
HOSPITAL OCT 14 AND, IN ABSENCE OF ANY REPLY TO HIS  
APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF HIS BANNING ORDER, PROCEEDED  
TO HOME OF BISHOP MATOLENGWE. HALF-HOUR LATER SECURITY  
POLICE ARRIVED AND ORDERED HIM TO RETURN TO HOSPITAL OR  
TO KIMBERLY - FAILING WHICH HE WOULD BE ARRESTED. AFTER  
STORMY CONFRONTATION WITH MRS. SOBUKWE AND THREE-  
HOUR DELAY WHILE SHE ATTEMPTED CONTACT DR. CHRIS BARNARD,  
SOBUKWE FINALLY RETURNED TO HOSPITAL.

2. MORNING OF OCT 15 CONGENOFF DROVE MRS. SOBUKWE  
TO HOSPITAL. SOBUKWE SAID BARNARD HAD UNDERTAKEN  
TO GET THE RULING REVERSED. NIGHT OF OCT 14 BARNARD,  
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UNABLE TO REACH JUSTICE MINISTER KRUGER, HAD TELEPHONED  
PRIME MINISTER VORSTER WHO AGREED TO LOOK INTO  
MATTER. LATER THAT EVENING SOBUKWE WAS TOLD THAT SECURITY  
POLICE CHIEF GERT PRINSLOO HAD INFORMED BARNARD HE WAS  
UNABLE TO LOCATE HEAD OF CAPE TOWN SECURITY POLICE  
(VAN NIEKERK) OR HIS DEPUTY, BUT HAD LEFT INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR THEM TO PHONE HIM AT 0800, OCT 15. HE

ADVISED THAT SOBUKWE REMAIN IN HOSPITAL OVERNIGHT WITH IMPLICATION THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO LEAVE NEXT DAY. WHEN CONGENOFF ARRIVED AT HOSPITAL MORNING OF OCT 15 SOBUKWE WAS EXPECTING TO BE GIVEN GREEN LIGHT MOMENTARILY.

3. LATER SAME MORNING, MOIRA HENDERSON PHONED CONGENOFF TO REPORT THAT OPPOSITION OF LOCAL SECURITY POLICE HAD PREVAILED AND PERMISSION TO RESIDE WITH MATOLENGWE WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE GIVEN. SHE SAID SOBUKWE WAS ADAMENT THAT HE WOULD NOT REMAIN IN HOSPITAL BUT DOCTORS WERE STRONGLY ADVISING AGAINST TRIP TO KIMBERLY. HOWEVER, NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONTINUING. MORNING OF OCT 16 HENDERSON PHONED CONGENOFF TO REPORT THAT "COMPROMISE" HAD BEEN WORKED OUT WHEREBY SOBUKWES WILL MOVE IN WITH YOUNG COUPLE BOTH OF WHOM ARE DOCTORS AT GROOTE SCHUUR.

4. SOBUKWES WILL BE STAYING WITH DR. DEBROGIDA AT 23 ROSMEAD AVE., KENILWORTH (TEL 021-437696). ACCORDING OUR INFO, DR. DEBROGIDA WAS ONE OF TEAM OF DOCTORS WHO TREATED SOBUKWE.

5. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO HENDERSON, THE EMOTIONAL STRAIN OF THE WEEKEND'S EVENTS HAD LEFT SOBUKWE "VERY TIRED" BUT AS OF AFTERNOON OF OCT 16 HE APPEARED TO BE REGAINING STRENGTH. WHILE HE  
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IS DISAPPOINTED AT NOT BEING ABLE TO JOIN MATOLENGWE, FINAL RESULT IS CLEARLY PREFERABLE TO EITHER OF THE ALTERNATIVES. AS ONE PARTICIPANT REMARKED, IT IS NOT SO MUCH THE RESULT,BUT THE WAY THE MATTER WAS HANDLED AND THE PERSONAL "RUDENESS" OF THE SECURITY POLICE THAT HAS LEFT THOSE INVOLVED WITH A SENSE OF OUTRAGE.

6. AS FOR SECURITY POLICE MOTIVATION IN OPPOSING HIS MOVE TO MATOLENGWE, SOBUKWE SAID VAN NEIKERK HAD TOLD HIM HE HAD NO REASON TO FEAR SOBUKWE BUT THAT "PEOPLE LIKE MATOLENGWE" WERE TRYING TO "USE" HIM TO ENHANCE THEIR OWN STATURE. MATOLENGWE IS A MEMBER OF THE MINISTERS FRATERNAL THAT EARLIER THIS YEAR PUBLISHED DOCUMENT ACCUSING RIOT POLICE OF INCITING MIGRANT WORKERS TO ATTACK RESIDENTS OF BLACK TOWNSHIPS.WHITE

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## Message Attributes

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